

Sunday, May 15, 2022

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Title: Time for New Strategy
Series: The Journey of Faith ... 13
Text: Joshua 6:1 - 11 and 16 - 27

Introduction:

The Devotional from last Sunday, May 1, was entitled, "The Last Leg" and the text was Joshua 1:1 - 9

1. Our Obedience for the Journey
2. Our Promises for the Journey
3. Our Courage for the Journey
4. Our Commitment for the Journey

~ Some journeys have one mode of transportation – When we drive to Kelowna

~ Lyn's recent trip to Kelowna was: drive to Regina, fly to Vancouver, fly to Kelowna, drive to Kim's

~ The destination in our spiritual journey is: Romans 8:29, "*For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*"

~ Compare with 2 Corinthians 3:18, "*And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.*"

1. Not Trained for This:

~ Exodus 1:8 – 11 Israelites were made slaves in Egypt to prevent them from becoming a military fifth column within Egypt.

2. Never Faced This Before:

~ Joshua 6:1, "*Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in.*"

Jericho (Tell es-Sultan) is an 8 acre mound about a mile northwest of the modern oasis of Jericho known as er-Riha. John Garstang in the 1930's found evidence that Jericho was a double-walled city and that the walls had fallen outward.

3. No Catapults or Ramps or Siege:

~ Siege examples: Battle of Verdun, February 21, 1916 to December 18, 1916 Siege of Malta, June 1940 to November 1942

~ What is the God given strategy to take Jericho?
Joshua 6:1 - 11

4. New Strategy for Believers on the Journey:

~ A New Creation: 2 Corinthians 5:17, "*Therefore, if any-*

one is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

(The name of our fellowship)

~ A Divine Helper: John 14:15 – 17, "*If you love me, you will keep my commandments. (16) And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, (17) even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.*"

~ A New Mind: 1 Corinthians 2:14 – 16, "*The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. (15) The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. (16) "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.*"

Compare with Philippians 2:1 – 8

Love (2), esteem others (3), genuine concern for others (4), humility (6), servant mindset (7)

~ A Set of New Armor: Ephesians 6:10 – 18

Truth (14), righteousness (14), readiness (15), faith (16), salvation (17), word and Spirit (17)

~ A New Arsenal of Weapons: 2 Corinthians 10:4, "For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds."

Word of God, Faith, Prayer in Jesus Name, Fellowship...

Conclusion:

When God Wants to Make a Man

When God wants to drill a man, And thrill a man, and skill a man,

When God wants to mold a man To play the noblest part;

When He yearns with all His heart To create so great and bold a man

That all the world shall be amazed,
Watch His methods, watch His ways!

How He ruthlessly perfects Whom He royally elects!

How He hammers him and hurts him, And with mighty blows converts him

Into trial shapes of clay which Only God understands;

While his tortured heart is crying And he lifts beseeching hands!

How he bends but never breaks When his good He undertakes;

How He uses whom He chooses, And with every purpose fuses him; By every act induces him To try His splendor out –

God knows what He's about.

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